

# *Loudoun County Virginia*



*2001*

## *Annual Report*





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# *Message from the County Administrator*

To the Board of Supervisors and Citizens of Loudoun County:

It is my pleasure to present to you Loudoun County's Annual Report for the 2001 Fiscal Year. This report highlights many of the county's accomplishments as well as the challenges we have faced over the past year.

Results of the 2000 Census confirmed that Loudoun County's population nearly doubled over a 10-year period, making this one of the fastest-growing counties in the United States. This rapid population growth, which has continued to occur in the year since the Census count was taken, has been the overriding challenge we have faced as a county government.



The Board of Supervisors, guided by the Vision for Loudoun County which it adopted shortly after beginning its term, made significant strides in using available tools to manage the population growth and its impacts. The centerpiece of this effort was the 18-month process of revising the county's Comprehensive Plan, which the Board adopted in July 2001. When fully implemented, the Plan will help the county effectively manage growth to preserve and protect the quality of life in Loudoun County. The Board also took action to meet the public safety and service needs of the growing population.

There have been many other accomplishments in FY 2001. For the fourth consecutive year, Loudoun County's excellent financial management was recognized by a major bond rating agency when Standard and Poor's upgraded the county's bond rating from AA to AA+. Other accomplishments in public safety, education, community services, transportation, the environment and other areas of county government are highlighted throughout this report.

Perhaps the greatest test of our success as a county government is meeting the high standards of those who live and pay taxes in Loudoun County. In a countywide survey taken in the spring of 2001, an overwhelming percentage of respondents gave high marks to Loudoun's quality of life and the value of services provided by the county government.

I invite you to read this annual report for FY 2001. I believe you will clearly see why so many people find the quality of life in Loudoun County to be truly world-class.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'K. Bowers', written over a light blue background.

Kirby M. Bowers  
County Administrator



# Board of Supervisors

## Composition and Role

Loudoun County is governed by a nine-member Board of Supervisors. The Board is headed by Chairman Scott K. York and Vice Chairman Eleanore C. Towe.

The Chairman of the Board of Supervisors is elected by the voters at large. The other supervisors are elected from each of eight election districts in the county. All nine members serve concurrent terms of four years.

The Board of Supervisors sets county policies, adopts ordinances, appropriates funds, approves land rezonings and special exceptions to the zoning ordinance, and carries out other responsibilities set forth by the State Code.

## Board Committees

The Board of Supervisors has four Standing Committees: the Economic Development Committee, Finance and Government Services Committee, Land Use Committee, and Transportation Committee. The Standing Committees consider and discuss issues related to their

specific functions and provide recommendations to the full Board for those that require Board action.

The Board also appoints over 30 other commissions and committees which serve in an advisory capacity on topics ranging from open space to economic development to community services.

## Redistricting

In FY 2001, the Board of Supervisors began the process of redrawing the boundary lines for the county's eight election districts.

The Board approved guidelines which include that all districts have equal representation; incorporated areas not be split, if possible; provisions of the Voting Rights Act be complied with; and the 2000 Census be the source of data.

Figures from the U.S. Census Bureau show that Loudoun County's population increased by almost 100 percent in the past decade, from 86,129 in 1990 to 169,599 in 2000.

## The Loudoun County Board of Supervisors

*Back row; left to right:*

Eleanore C. Towe, Vice Chairman, Blue Ridge;

Jim Burton, Mercer;

William Bogard, Sugarland Run;

Chuck Harris, Broad Run;

Sally R. Kurtz, Catoctin.

*Front row; left to right:*

Eugene Delgaudio, Sterling;

Scott K. York, Chairman At Large;

J. Drew Hiatt, Dulles;

Mark R. Herring, Leesburg.



# *Vision for Loudoun County*

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On April 3, 2000, the Board of Supervisors adopted the following Vision for Loudoun County:



"At the start of this new millennium, we, the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors, envision Loudoun County as a prominent sustainable community; as the global crossroads of the information technology industry and as a vibrant rural and broad based economy; preserving our historic and environmental heritage and the character of our towns and neighborhoods; fostering a strong sense of community, with robust economic, educational and recreational activity; recognized as a superb place for families and individuals to live, learn, work, worship, invest and visit."

# *Vision for Loudoun County*



Loudoun is a community surrounded by and possessing striking physical beauty — mountains, rivers and creeks, small towns, farms, historic resources and open countryside — we must be extraordinarily careful and proactive to preserve our rich heritage while enhancing our suburban residential communities.

Loudoun County is the envy of many communities. We live in a beautiful place. Our economy is booming. Unemployment sits at a record low. Our community has fame and fortune. We are becoming known for being rich in fiber as our emerging global technology centers meet with our diverse rural economy. This vision of the County will have become reality when we have fully achieved:

## **Land Use**

- Aesthetically appealing development that reflects excellent standards, diversity of influence, and a commitment to making people the focus of development decisions.
- Protecting, sustaining and enhancing the County's air and water quality, soils, landscape, wildlife and other natural and man-made resources making Loudoun environmentally sound.
- Rural residential development that maintains Loudoun's rural character, preserves the environment, water quality and quantity and natural features, and develops at overall densities that do not exceed the capacity of rural roads and public facilities or compromise the integrity of the rural economy.
- Our town and rural countryside character is preserved.

- Distinct, well-designed new residential and mixed-use communities.
- Revitalization of our older communities through quality projects and conformance with the natural environment.
- People working in the County can afford to live here, and that creative and innovative solutions to the County's housing needs are adopted and supported.
- Balancing the private property rights of individuals with the public interest and the shared values of the community.

## **Education**

- A globally competitive quality of public education for our children.
- A learning environment where children of diverse social, ethnic and economic backgrounds feel safe, motivated, respected and prepared for a fulfilling and productive life.
- A library system that is accessible and promotes life long learning.
- An education system that offers a variety of higher education options.

## **Transportation**

- A safe and efficient transportation system that supports the County's planned growth.
- Existing road networks that provide safe and convenient access to business and employment areas.
- Land use and transportation decisions that are linked together so that the location and timing of new development coincides with existing and planned transportation improvements needed to meet increased demands.

# *Vision for Loudoun County*



- Pedestrian friendly, safe alternatives to single occupancy automobiles and encouragement of the public's use of these alternatives.

## **Government Services**

- All citizens feel that they have a stake in government, are connected to their neighborhoods, and can influence local government and its actions.
- County programs are available and delivered to all our citizens at the highest level of service at reasonable costs.
- The public is served with creativity, integrity and respect.
- Responsive, well-run professional, technologically sophisticated government is connected to its citizenry.
- The County's financial policies assess long range fiscal impact, provide an equitable distribution of the costs of development between direct beneficiaries and the citizens at large, maintain acceptable levels of taxes and fees, sound debt management and provide for potential economic uncertainties and risk.



## **Public Safety**

- Provide a safe place where all people, regardless of age, ability, or economic condition, can live with dignity and respect and without fear.
- When Loudoun's hospital can meet the needs of the community and the word bypass is associated with heart surgery and not rerouting a patient to another jurisdiction for emergency care.
- Continued support of Loudoun's volunteer fire and rescue system backed up by well-trained career personnel, meeting the demands of growth.

## **Economic Development**

- A strong, diverse and resilient economy based on Loudoun's comparative advantages.
- Loudoun's full potential as a global technology center.
- Recognized for our innovative business and entrepreneurial spirit.
- A strong business community with business leaders involved in the economic success of Loudoun and the region, especially on issues of infrastructure, workforce and education.
- The vitality of Loudoun's agricultural, horticulture and equine industries.
- Loudoun positioned as a premier tourist destination because of its historical resources, pictorial settings and approximate location of the new Air and Space museum.



# *Top Issues of the 2000-2001 Fiscal Year*



## **Census figures confirmed Loudoun's rapid growth**

Loudoun County's rapid population growth was confirmed by figures released by the U.S. Census Bureau, which showed that the county's population nearly doubled in the '90s.

Loudoun's population increased from 86,129 in 1990 to 169,599 in 2000, according to the Census Bureau, making Loudoun the fastest growing jurisdiction in Virginia and one of the fastest-growing counties in the nation. It is estimated that the county grew by another 15,000 people in the year following the Census count.

## **Board continued growth management initiatives**

The Board of Supervisors remained committed to managing the unprecedented growth, enhancing the quality of life, and providing adequate and cost-efficient services to the public.

To that end, the Board oversaw a thorough review of the county's Comprehensive Plan, which serves as a framework for land use and transportation decisions. The review process included extensive study and public input, including community meetings, public hearings, and public comment, culminating in adoption of the revised Comprehensive Plan in July 2001.

When implemented, the plan will significantly reduce the number of houses that can potentially be built in the county. The plan also focuses on the preservation of Loudoun's natural, environmental, cultural, and heritage resources.

## **Survey indicated broad support for growth management**

A survey of 1,000 randomly selected households across the county indicated that a strong majority of Loudoun County residents support the growth management initiatives of the Board of Supervisors.

The survey was conducted to update demographic information and to obtain residents' opinions on key county issues in such areas as planning, development, transportation and public safety.

Among the preliminary survey results, 76 percent of respondents said they support the Board of Supervisors' efforts to manage growth in the county, and 77 percent said the county is growing too fast.

## **County's bond rating was upgraded again**

Loudoun County's excellent financial management was recognized by Standard and Poor's, which upgraded the county's bond rating from AA to AA+ during FY 2001. It was the fourth consecutive year that the county's bond rating was upgraded by a major national credit-rating agency. Each of the three major agencies now rates Loudoun County at just one step below the highest bond rating of AAA.

## **Courts project neared completion**

Phase I of the Courts Renovation and Expansion Project in Leesburg neared

# Top Issues of the 2000-2001 Fiscal Year



completion in FY 2001 with workers renovating the former county administration building and constructing an addition. The expanded courts complex will house courtrooms and offices for the Circuit Court, General District Court, and Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court.

## **Adopted budget focused on public safety and service needs**

In April 2001, the Board of Supervisors adopted a \$839.9 million budget for the county government and school system for FY 2002.

The fiscal plan provided funding for several new initiatives for the general county government targeting such areas as public safety, transportation, community services and environmental protection, while holding the real property tax rate for FY 02 constant at \$1.08 per \$100 in assessed value.

## **Board initiated public transportation, fire and rescue system studies**

Loudoun County initiated two major studies to help address key issues resulting from the changing face of the county. The county contracted with KFH Group, Inc. to develop the Loudoun County Public Transportation Study.

The Board of Supervisors and staff will use recommendations developed during the study to plan, finance, and implement a comprehensive public transportation system to improve mobility for Loudoun County residents, employees, and visitors.

The county also contracted with the EMSSTAR Group to help develop a model Fire, Rescue and Emergency Management System.

## **Task force made workspace recommendations**

The Board of Supervisors appointed a Facilities and Office Space Task Force to address the needs of the growing county workforce.

The task force recommended constructing a new school administration building, to be financed with Virginia Public School Authority (VPSA) bonds. The task force also recommended constructing new facilities for community development agencies; Parks, Recreation and Community Services administrative offices; and regional facilities for community service agencies. Under the task force recommendations, the core county administrative functions would remain at the County Government Center in downtown Leesburg.

## **Workforce recruitment and retention was an ongoing challenge**

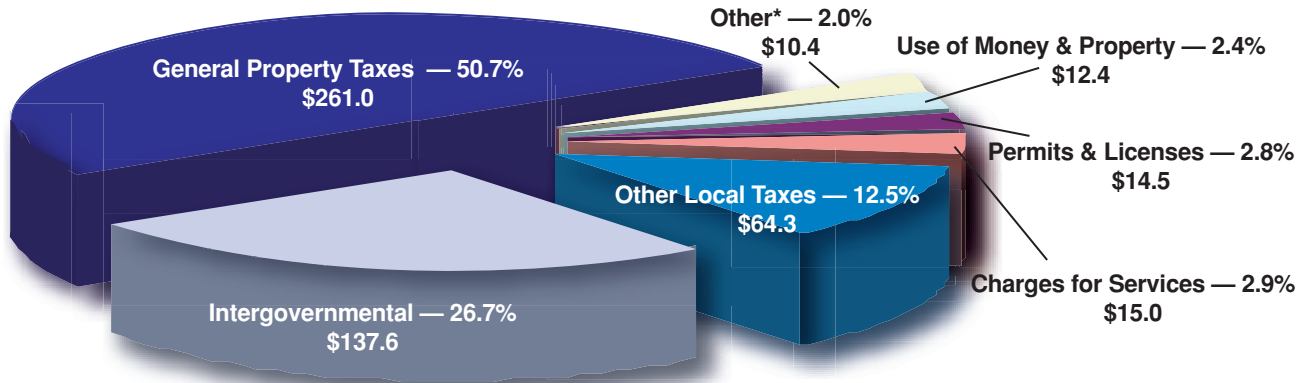
Attracting and retaining job applicants in a highly competitive job market continued to be a challenge in FY 2001. The county made it easier to search for job openings and obtain job applications online through the county website, [www.loudoun.gov](http://www.loudoun.gov). County staff participated in eight job fairs including a Loudoun County job fair held at the County Government Center. These efforts helped the county fill 566 full- and part-time jobs in FY 2001.



# Budget and Finance

## Revenues (millions)

Total: \$515.2



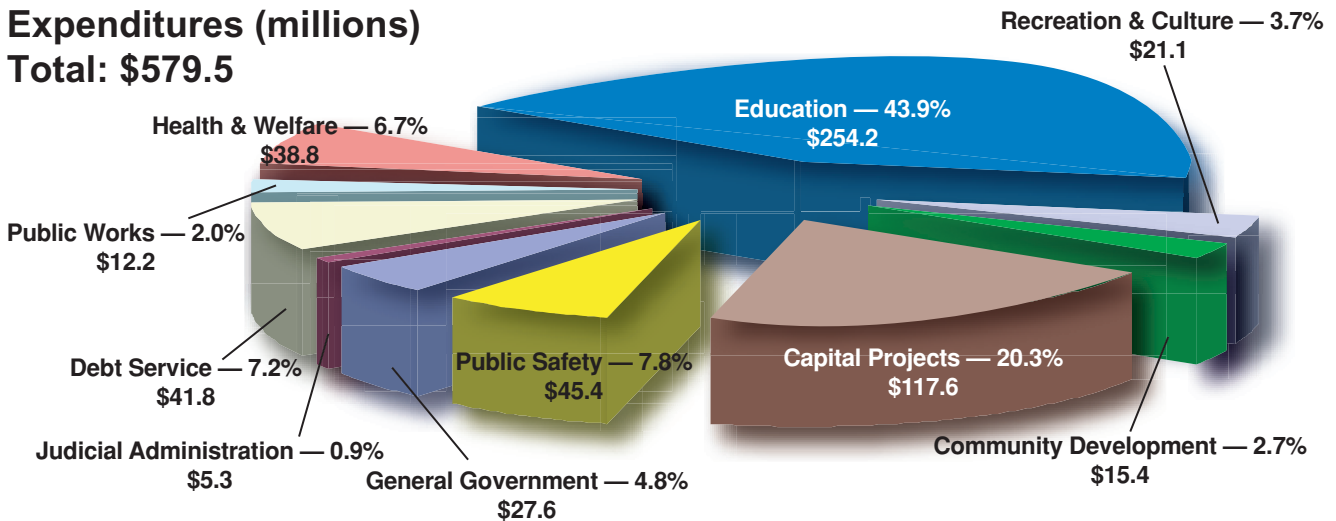
### NOTE:

Revenue chart does not include \$117.1 million in proceeds from sale of bonds, and \$5.7 million from lease purchase financing.

Other includes:  
Fines & Forfeitures  
Recovered Costs  
Miscellaneous Revenues

## Expenditures (millions)

Total: \$579.5





# Budget and Finance

In a countywide survey, 73 percent of respondents said they feel that Loudoun County provides good value for the tax dollar.

In FY 01 the county received 8,545 online tax payments totaling \$1.57 million.

## Budget and Taxes

In April 2001, the Board of Supervisors adopted a \$839.9 million budget for the county government and school system for FY 2002. The fiscal plan provided funding for several new initiatives for the general county government targeting such areas as public safety, transportation, community services and environmental protection.

The Board held the real property tax rate for FY 02 constant at \$1.08 per \$100 in assessed value. However, because of an increase in the value of residential property assessments, the annual property tax bills for the average homeowner increased by about 14 percent in FY 02.

The personal property tax rate remained unchanged at \$4.20 per \$100, with \$1.25 of the \$4.20 dedicated to funding capital projects.

The Board of Supervisors adopted the Land Use Assessment Sliding Scale Deferral Program. This program permits additional deferral of taxes in the land use program for qualifying properties.

The Board also amended a county ordinance to allow partial tax exemption on residential properties lying within approved districts when the dwellings are substantially rehabilitated. This amendment exempts the increase in value generated by the rehabilitation from tax.

Loudoun County received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association for the FY 2001 budget document.

## Financial Management

Loudoun County's excellent financial management was recognized by Standard and Poor's, which upgraded the county's bond rating from AA to AA+ during FY 2001. It was the fourth consecutive year that the county's bond rating was upgraded by a major national credit-rating agency. Each of the three major agencies now rates Loudoun County at just one step below the highest bond rating of AAA.

Among other accomplishments in FY 2001:

- The county received a Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association for the 2000 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.
- The Treasurer's Office implemented lock box services for the collection of personal property and real estate taxes. This enhancement alleviated the workload of the staff during the tax deadline by re-routing mailed tax payments to a processing center. The center processed the tax payments, updated the treasury management systems and deposited the funds the same date they were received. This allowed for better investment returns to the county.
- The Treasurer's Office also automated the real estate refund system, which interfaces directly with the accounting systems. This eliminates such manual processes as check issuance, which improves data accuracy.
- Loudoun taxpayers increasingly paid their tax bills through e-Checks, which enable them to pay their real and personal property taxes via the county's website.

# Budget and Finance

## Capital Improvement Program

Loudoun County's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) is a six-year forecast of general government and school facility, land and equipment needs accompanied by a financing plan to implement all projects. Total projected expenditures for the FY 01-06 CIP are \$1.077 billion. Of this, \$725.9 million (67.4%) is funding for school projects and \$351.4 million (32.6%) is funding for general government projects.

In November 2000, voters approved the sale of General Obligation Bonds totaling \$119.9 million to fund the construction of five new schools and improvements to four other schools, along with \$3 million for a new public safety center in Broadlands.

**Current and future CIP projects include:**

### General Government

- Courts renovation and expansion
- Public safety centers combining fire, rescue and law enforcement services in

Broadlands, South Riding, western Loudoun and Rt. 28 near Dulles Town Center

- Adult Detention Center
- Public safety building to house the county's law enforcement function
- Development of a central Loudoun park site and improvements to several other park sites across the county
- Libraries in Ashburn and South Riding and an addition to the Rust Library in Leesburg
- Twelve MH/MR/SAS group homes

### Schools

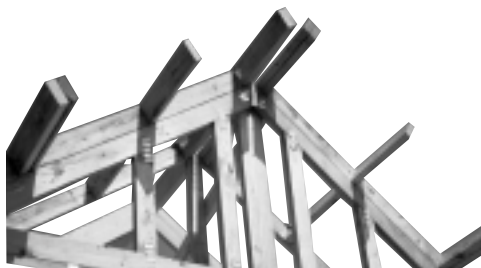
- Heritage High School
- Park View High School renovation
- River Bend Middle School
- Renovations to four middle schools — Blue Ridge, J. Lupton Simpson, Seneca Ridge and Sterling
- Forest Grove Elementary School
- Hutchison Farm Elementary School
- John W. Tolbert, Jr., Elementary School



# Community Planning and Environment

In a countywide survey, 76 percent of respondents said they support the Board of Supervisors' efforts to manage growth in the county.

75 percent of residents surveyed support reducing the land area available for residential development or the number of homes that are allowed per acre.



## FY 2001 Figures

Building code inspections	268,147
Land development applications	1,084
Building permits	59,514

## Growth Management

Loudoun County continued to experience record growth in FY 2001. Figures from the U.S. Census released in FY 2001 showed that the county's population was 169,599 in 2000, a nearly 100 percent increase from 1990, making Loudoun one of the fastest-growing counties in the nation.

The rapid pace of growth was evident in the record number of building code inspections conducted by the Department of Building and Development, which also processed a record number of land development applications and building permits.

The Board of Supervisors remained committed to managing the unprecedented growth, enhancing the quality of life, and providing adequate and cost-efficient services to the public. To that end, the Board oversaw a thorough review of the county's Comprehensive Plan, which serves as a framework for land use and transportation decisions. The review process included extensive study and public input, including community meetings, public hearings, and public comment. The process culminated in adoption of the revised Comprehensive Plan in July 2001.

One of the key elements of the new plan is the Green Infrastructure strategy. This concept focuses on Loudoun's natural, environmental, cultural, and heritage resources as an element of development and will help to preserve green space.

The Board of Supervisors also adopted the Land Use Assessment Sliding Scale Deferral Program, which permits additional deferral of taxes in the Land Use Program for qualifying properties.

The Office of Mapping and Geographic Information implemented the Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) program, in which the county purchases development rights from landowners to preserve open space.

The office also provided mapping support to the Department of Fire and Rescue in the development of a plan for locating new facilities. The process received a National Association of Counties (NACo) achievement award.

The mapping office also improved public access to the county's state-of-the-art Land Management Information System with the creation of a LMIS public work area, which includes computers and allows people to save, print or e-mail their research results. Meanwhile, the Department of Building and Development began testing a new LMIS permitting and record-keeping system which is aimed at streamlining the way the county processes land development requests.



# Community Planning and Environment



## Economic Development

Commercial growth continued at a record pace in Loudoun County in FY 2001.

- The Howard Hughes Medical Institute announced plans in February for a \$500 million biomedical science center at Janelia Farm Technology Park.
- The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority approved investing \$3.4 billion in a major capital development program at Dulles International Airport.
- Several major employers expanded their operations, including America Online, Atlantic Coast Airlines, and WorldCom.
- Old Dominion University opened its new Northern Virginia Center, a full-service educational facility, in Sterling.
- Comsearch moved its headquarters to Janelia Farm Technology Park in Ashburn.
- Lansdowne Resort announced plans to construct an additional 18-hole golf course. Designed by Greg Norman, the course will complement the existing 18-hole course, which was designed by Robert Trent Jones, Jr.

The rural economy was also a top priority as a new Agricultural Team was created. An Agricultural Marketing Manager and Rural Coordinator were hired to assist the county's Agricultural Development Officer. Also, the Board of Supervisors established the Rural Economic Development Council to serve as a citizens' advisory board.

The Department of Economic Development (DED) continued to reach out to Loudoun communities through its

Community Economic Development Program. The program focuses on ways to keep the county's incorporated towns while preserving their sense of character.

In November, the Board of Supervisors adopted "The Community's Plan for a Thriving and Sustainable Economy," an economic development strategic plan prepared by the Economic Development Commission and DED. The strategy charts an economic course that balances the pursuit of growth opportunities with long-term stability.

Five Loudoun businesses were recognized by the Virginia Chamber of Commerce at the Fantastic 50 Awards banquet in June for being among Virginia's fastest-growing privately owned companies. Cigital, NLX, The Cube Corporation, Technica, and Tucon Construction received the awards.

## Transportation

In recognition of the county's increasing role in transportation planning and management, the Board of Supervisors created an Office of Transportation Services. The office will provide professional support in transportation planning, public transit, and transportation operations. The office will work closely with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT).

The county also hired a consultant to conduct a Public Transportation Study. The recommendations developed during the study will be used to plan, finance, and implement a comprehensive public transportation system to improve mobility for Loudoun County residents, employees, and visitors. Both intra-county and regional services will be addressed in the plan.

# Community Planning and Environment

## Top FY 2001 transportation projects in Loudoun County included:

- Dual turn lanes at Route 28 and Route 606
- A 750-space park-and-ride lot, the Dulles North Transit Center
- Safety improvements at Route 287 and Route 663 in Lovettsville, and on Routes 9 and 15
- Road improvement projects in Middleburg, Lovettsville and outside Leesburg

The county permitted nearly 5.1 million square feet of non-residential construction in FY 2001.

The value of the construction, including new buildings and alterations, was \$279.6 million.

The Office of Solid Waste Management collected nearly 100 tons of household hazardous waste during six collection events and two special pickups.

Loudoun County is also participating in the Dulles Corridor Rapid Transit Study, which is expected to bring bus rapid transit service and eventually rail service to Loudoun County.

## Environment

In September 2000, the Board of Supervisors took action to protect the county's water resources by moving hydro-geologic testing requirements for new rural subdivisions to the preliminary subdivision plan process, instead of having the testing occur later in the development process.

In adopting the county budget for FY 2002, the Board created a stormwater management program to address concerns related to erosion and sediment control and other stormwater management issues, and added staff to provide better environmental regulatory oversight.

In April 2001, the Board appointed the Water Resources Technical Advisory Committee and directed the panel to analyze the quality and quantity of the county's present and future groundwater and surface water resources.

Also in the spring of 2001, the Department of Building and Development formed a Stream Monitoring Program to monitor and protect surface water resources in Loudoun County. The program involves local volunteers and citizens groups.

The Health Department re-engineered the provision of standard environmental health services to accommodate unprecedented growth and increased demand for environmental health services.

The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation awarded Loudoun County a grant to help improve the quality of streams and surface waters by upgrading sewage disposal systems. An Environmental Health survey of the Paeonian Springs community identified substandard water and sewage disposal systems, and the department initiated corrective measures.

The Office of Solid Waste Management completed the design phase for the construction of the Phase III expansion cell at the county landfill, the first expansion cell at the landfill since 1993.

The county experienced a dramatic increase in the number of customers served at the landfill, especially on Saturdays. Major projects at the landfill in FY 2001 included relocating the scale-house, relocating and erecting weight scales, and moving into another administrative facility.

The county's recycling programs also continued to grow in FY 2001:

- The Residential Recycling Drop-off Centers collected 2,318 tons of material.
- Eleven tons of Christmas trees were collected.
- 1,700 tons of vegetative waste were ground for mulch and made available to county residents.
- The Clean Waste Program collected 7,000 pounds of materials from participating businesses.

# Public Safety

In a countywide survey, 98 percent of respondents said they felt safe in their neighborhoods.

The animal shelter averaged nearly 100 adoptions a month in FY 2001, a 10 percent increase over FY 2000.

## Fire and Rescue

As the county's population continued to surge, the number of active Fire and Rescue Volunteers remained relatively flat, placing increasing strains on the fire and rescue system. This led several fire and rescue companies to request additional career personnel.

To ensure adequate coverage as the population continues to grow, the county launched a comprehensive study of its fire, emergency medical services, and emergency management system. The county hired a consulting firm, The EMSSTAR Group, to analyze the current system and propose a model system to meet the county's diverse and changing needs.

Voters approved the sale of \$3 million in bonds to finance a new Public Safety Center in the rapidly growing Broadlands area. The target date for completion is the summer of 2004.

The Virginia Department of Health's Office of Emergency Medical Services designated the Fire and Rescue Department's Paramedic Program as a Virginia Approved Paramedic Training Center.

The Loudoun County Fire and Rescue Department is the first in the state to receive this accreditation for paramedic training, joining the ranks of such prestigious programs as George Washington University, the University of Virginia Paramedic Program, and the Medical College of Virginia Paramedic Program.

## Law Enforcement

The Sheriff's Office hired 80 new employees in FY 2001 and received funding in the FY 2002 adopted budget to enhance the law enforcement presence in the county by substantially increasing the number of Sheriff's deputies.

The Sheriff's Community Policing program continued to meet with success in FY 2001, receiving a federal grant for five deputies. The program also received recognition when WETA-FM honored Deputy Nancy Johnson as a Hometown Hero for her grassroots outreach that led to the launching of the community policing program in FY 2000.

In other law enforcement developments:

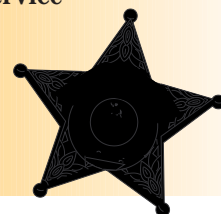
- The Corrections Division passed a three-year, comprehensive Virginia Department of Corrections audit, consisting of more than 125 standards, with a score of 100 percent.
- The Records Division fully implemented Live Scan, an automated fingerprinting system.
- Planning for the new Adult Detention Center (ADC) was completed in FY 2001. The new ADC is scheduled to open in 2004.

Year	Fire Incidents	Emergency Medical Incidents
FY 99	3,984	9,802
FY 00	4,230	10,634
FY 01	4,743	11,671



## Year Sheriff's Office Calls for Service

FY 99	92,097
FY 00	107,492
FY 01	119,296







## Judicial Administration

Phase I of the Courts Renovation and Expansion Project in Leesburg neared completion in FY 2001 with workers renovating the former county administration building and constructing an addition.

The Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court implemented several new programs in FY 2001 to better serve the public, streamline operations, and save money. The new initiatives include a website, which provides online information about a variety of subjects, such as court and land records, filing fees, marriage licenses, passport applications, and other court-related items. Other new projects include the use of a private company to issue jury summons, expanded law library services, the automation of the marriage license process, and automation of the probate process.

The Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney opened 1,800 felony cases in FY 2001, up from 1,620 in FY 2000. Also in FY 2001, the Commonwealth's Attorney opened 50,000 misdemeanor cases and 9,500 Juvenile and Domestic Relations cases.

The number of people served by the Victim Witness Program continued to grow in FY 2001. The program handled 1,831 cases, a 44.5 percent increase from the 1,267 cases handled in FY 1999.

In FY 2001, the Victim Witness Program helped 40 people file claims with the Virginia Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund, which pays unreimbursed expenses of victims who suffer physical or psychological injury or death as a result of a crime.

The program is funded by fees collected from persons convicted of felonies and certain classes of misdemeanors.

## Animal Care and Control

The animal shelter underwent an extensive renovation and modernization in FY 2001. The facility now has 45 kennel runs, allowing separate areas for incoming animals, those being adopted, sick animals, and aggressive dogs.

The remodeled shelter has the capacity to house up to 90 cats. There also are areas for birds, reptiles, and small animals. The renovation also improved the shelter's reception and administration areas. Most of the funding for the project came from the sale of bonds approved in a 1998 voter referendum, supplemented by private donations.

### Year      Pet Adoptions

FY 99	872
FY 00	1,069
FY 01	1,174



The Department of Animal Care and Control continued to use the county website to list lost and found pets and photographs of animals available for adoption. The department's webpages consistently rank among the most requested of those on the county website.

The number of animals adopted from the shelter increased by about ten percent in FY 2001 while the percentage of animals euthanized decreased from 42 to 34 percent.

# Human Services



## Housing Services

Loudoun County Housing Services assumed direct administration of the Section 8 Rental Assistance Program, culminating a 10-month transition period with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Virginia Housing Development Authority. This transition was vital to ensuring housing stability for more than 680 families in Loudoun County.

Housing Services launched Operation Match, an innovative program which allows individuals to share their homes due to economic, companionship or service reasons, or who need help to find affordable housing. A total of 254 clients were served in FY 2001.

Over the past three years, more than 300 Loudoun County families averted a housing crisis thanks to the Homeless Intervention Program, a loan program funded through the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development.

Housing Services achieved substantial completion of two community sewer connection programs to eliminate reliance on failing or at-risk septic systems in the Hamilton and Elk Lick areas. More than 180 households now have the opportunity to be served by central sewer systems.

Participation in the agency's Homebuyers Opportunity Program grew considerably in FY 2001. Since the program began eight years ago, more than 400 families who previously lived in rented housing now own their own homes in Loudoun County.

## Mental Health/Mental Retardation/Substance Abuse

The Community Services Board achieved increased visibility in the county with a new information packet and logo, as well as a community resource center slated to open in the fall of 2001.

The Division of Mental Health opened an Intensive Community Residential Treatment group home to serve persons who require a higher level of services in order to remain in the community. The Division of Mental Retardation conducted a quality of life survey at its group homes to enhance service to consumers.

The number of infants referred to the Early Intervention Program has increased more than 20% per year for the past three years. In FY 2001, the program successfully completed a federally mandated review process.

## Social Services

The Career Support Services unit welcomed an average of 287 residents per month at the Workforce Resource Center, where they could search for jobs, work on resumes and contact potential employers. The unit also continued its successful Medical Receptionist Training program, and offered specialized billing and coding training for those seeking employment in medical office administration.

The Family Services unit hosted the 1st Annual Fun Day in April 2001, drawing 164 local child care providers and 534 of their pre-school children for a day of learning and fun. The unit also conducted childcare workshops for day care providers and their staff.



# Human Services

In FY 2001, the Community Holiday Coalition distributed more than 98,000 donated food and gift items to more than 900 needy families in Loudoun County.

## Health Department

The county welcomed a new director of the Health Department, Dr. David Goodfriend, who began work in April 2001. He previously served as director of the Virginia Health Department's Piedmont District, covering seven counties.

Dr. Peter VanSickels, Loudoun's Public Health Dentist, received the prestigious Joseph M. Dougherty Award for excellence in Public Health Dentistry from the Virginia Department of Health. His dental program screened more than 5,000 children in grades K-5 in the Loudoun school system.

The Health Department implemented a folic acid campaign to reduce the number of Loudoun County babies born with birth

defects. The campaign dispenses multivitamins that contain folic acid at no charge and aims to educate women of childbearing years about the benefits of including sufficient folic acid in their diet.

In FY 2001, the Health Department received the Virginia Department of Health's Division of Tuberculosis Control's award for the Northern Virginia Region. This award is presented to the health department that provides the best follow-up to people with tuberculosis.





# Library Services

More than 84,000 users logged on to the LCPL's online databases in FY 2001.

Loudoun County Public Library (LCPL) went "live" with Horizon, a state-of-the-art library automation system. The library's online catalog of materials can now be accessed through the World Wide Web at [www.lcpl.lib.va.us/](http://www.lcpl.lib.va.us/). Patrons can renew their books, use the library databases and place requests for library materials from their home, office, school or at the library. In the first month after launching Horizon, customer requests for materials increased 39% over the previous year.

The library added e-books and additional comprehensive databases to its web page. More than 84,000 users logged on to the LCPL's online databases in FY 2001.

The \$1 million Irwin Uran Gift Fund supported a wide range of public programs, seminars, exhibits and purchase of materials that reinforced the mission of the gift, "better understanding between all people." Highlighting this year was the "Wings of Witness," a Holocaust Memorial Sculpture in progress. More than 2,000 students and Loudoun community members contributed to the project.

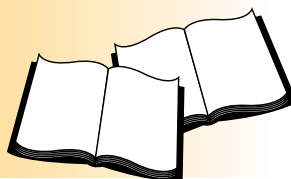
Designs for the new Ashburn Library have been completed by Phillips Swager Associates. Groundbreaking is scheduled for Fall 2001, and the 23,000-square-foot facility is slated to open in 2002.

The Summer Reading Program, "Read to the Beat," encouraged children and teens to keep reading and to use the library during the vacation months. More than 11,000 young people participated in the program. Corporate sponsorships provided funding for books that were given to each child who completed the program. The series won the American Library Association's Public Relations Council Award.

The library was awarded a variety of grants that enhanced services and provided programs to the Loudoun community. The Loudoun County Public Library was selected as one of 12 libraries nationwide to receive funding for local programming related to the PBS series from Bill Moyers called "On Our Own Terms: Moyers on Dying in America."

## Year Library Materials Circulated\*

FY 99	1,964,379
FY 00	1,983,504
FY 01	2,110,585



\*Books, CDs, Videos, Magazines



# Parks, Recreation and Community Services

In the countywide survey, 89 percent of respondents rated Loudoun's quality of life as good or excellent.

Meals Prepared for Seniors & Youth	
FY 99	82,573
FY 00	100,183
FY 01	117,407



Loudoun County parks welcomed 513,646 visitors, and community centers saw more than 1 million users in fiscal year 2001. The department coordinated sports activities for 39,457 sports participants throughout the year.

FY 2001 was also a year of many “firsts” for the department. The first LAUGHS (Loudoun’s Annual Unforgettable Gigantic Hilarious Storyfest) festival was held at Claude Moore Park, attracting world famous storytellers. The Office on Youth co-sponsored the first Mother and Daughter Tea. The first annual Volunteer Fun & Service Day matched more than 130 Loudoun residents with community projects such as building skate board ramps, planting flowers, painting, and preparing trails at community centers and parks.

The department again hosted the PONY National Girls Fast Pitch Softball Tournament of Champions. Over 200 teams participated in games played at more than 40 fields throughout the county.

The WORK (Work Ordered Repayment by Kids) Program was launched with the help of a grant from the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services. Supervised work sites have been developed in county parks and community centers for youths who are ordered by the court to do community service.

The department also received \$140,000 from the federal TEA-21 program to construct a bike trail from Round Hill to Purcellville.





# Information, Management and Technology

## Management Services

Attracting and retaining job applicants in a highly competitive job market continued to be a challenge in FY 2001. The Division of Human Resources made it easier to search for job openings and obtain job applications online through the county website. County staff participated in eight job fairs including a Loudoun County job fair held at the County Government Center. These contributed to the hiring of 566 regular full- and part-time employees.

The Purchasing Office continued to expand its use of the Internet by providing an online Purchase Order Contract Summary Report to improve the daily management of contract expenditures, and by posting the Purchase Order Terms and Conditions on the county website.

The professionalism of the Purchasing Office helped Loudoun County to again achieve the Excellence in Procurement Award for 2000 from the National Purchasing Institute. Loudoun is one of only 26 jurisdictions in the nation to receive this award twice.

To help make the best possible use of its assets, the county expanded its Surplus Store, a retail operation which sells surplus items to the public. This popular store tripled the revenue it brought in through the sale of surplus equipment in FY 2001.

## Information and Technology

The Loudoun County Government was recognized for its strategic application of technology by the International City/County Management Association (ICMA). The county was chosen through a

competitive selection process to make a presentation about its web-based services during the ICMA's Best Practices Symposium in Newport, Rhode Island, in April, 2001.

Loudoun was cited for implementing technology programs that have enhanced services to the community by providing electronic information, transactions, and payment options to the public. These programs include the ability to pay taxes online and the county's searchable database of real estate assessment and land parcel information. The county's Intranet also was cited for promoting internal efficiency.

The number of visits to the county website, [www.loudoun.gov/](http://www.loudoun.gov/), increased by nearly 41 percent in FY 2001, and users viewed over 3 million pages. Among the most popular new offerings on the website were the database of land parcels, a searchable list of employment opportunities with the county government, an information page for new residents, and documents related to the Comprehensive Plan review.

For the fourth year in a row, Loudoun's website was ranked among the top county government websites in the country. Loudoun was one of just five counties nationwide to receive an "Excellent" rating from the National Association of County Information Officers.

Loudoun County also received the E-Government Award from the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments for the county website's master calendar. The master calendar is a comprehensive listing of all public meetings of the Board of Supervisors and



# Information, Management and Technology

For the fourth consecutive year, Loudoun's website was rated among the top county government websites in the nation.

Year	Website "User Sessions"
FY 99	214,193
FY 00	555,366
FY 01	782,353



its standing committees; all boards, committees and commissions appointed by the Board; and committees and subcommittees of those public bodies.

## Public Information

The Public Information Office used the county website along with more conventional methods to help keep the public informed about such issues as the Comprehensive Plan Review, the redistricting process, and ongoing studies of public transportation and the Fire and Rescue system.

A countywide random survey conducted in May and June, 2001, indicated that a strong majority of Loudoun County residents support the growth management initiatives of the Board of Supervisors.

The survey was conducted to update demographic information and to obtain residents' opinions on key county issues in

such areas as planning, development, transportation and public safety.

The county continued to expand its efforts to engage and involve communities. The county government held two countywide leaders' forums as well as community forums in Ashburn Village, Leesburg and Hamilton to hear from residents about their priorities and concerns.

Neighborhoods across the county participated in the second annual Family Volunteer Day, in which families and neighbors got together to organize projects to benefit the community. The county government also participated in a Community Day Expo at the Dulles Town Center to provide information to the public about county programs.



# Public Schools



## Overview

The education of children continues to be a top priority in Loudoun County. The schools accounted for about 62% of expenditures from local tax funding in FY 2001, including capital projects and debt service associated with the school system, and school fund expenditures totaled about \$7,700 per student.

Just as it is for the county as a whole, growth is the major issue for the Loudoun County Public Schools. Student enrollment grew from 21,733 in 1996 to 31,830 for the opening of the 2000-2001 school year.

During the next five years, enrollment is expected to reach 48,000. This means that there is a need for more schools to house the county's students and more teachers to educate them.

On August 16, 2000, 458 new teachers gathered in the auditorium at Potomac Falls High School for orientation, the largest number hired for a single school year. 309 of the new teachers came from Virginia, but 22 states, the District of Columbia and a foreign country (Japan) also were represented.

Loudoun County Public Schools opened the 2000-2001 school year with three new schools (Stone Bridge High School and Little River and Mill Run elementary schools) to bring its total number of facilities to 48. Three more schools will open for the 2001-2002 school year and 20 more will be built in the next five years.

The schools at all levels (elementary, middle and high) are built from ultra-modern prototypes. The new elementary schools have a capacity of 800 students, middle schools 1,184, and high schools 1,600.

Principals for new schools are hired well before their opening and spend up to a year building the new school's faculty, support staff and, perhaps most importantly, its identity.

The school division's level of achievement would seem to bear out the notion that constant change and growth do not affect instruction.

Loudoun County students registered 20-year highs on SAT testing and scored well above the state and national averages on the college admissions standard. Loudoun is the largest school division in Virginia to have all of its schools fully or provisionally accredited under Virginia's Standards of Learning.

The school division also has 53 thriving business partnerships to supplement instruction and help students explore career options. Among the schools' business partnerships are America Online and Lockheed Martin.

The non-profit Loudoun Education Foundation also supplies funds for supplemental programs bounded only by the imagination of the educators who create them.



# Top School Issues of the 2000-2001 Fiscal Year



## SAT scores increased

Loudoun County Public School (LCPS) students taking the Scholastic Aptitude Test during Spring 2000 posted the highest composite SAT score since LCPS began keeping records on this test in 1980.

These scores included a 527 average (out of 800 possible points) on the verbal section of the test and 519 on the math section for a combined score of 1046.

LCPS verbal scores were 18 points above the Virginia average and 22 points above the average posted by students nationwide. On the math section, LCPS students scored five points above the national average and 19 points above the state average.

## Partnership formed to bridge the "digital divide"

Virginia Governor Jim Gilmore took a step toward closing the "digital divide" during a news conference at Broad Run High School. Standing in the high school's library, Gilmore pledged \$3 million in 2001 to the PowerUP program, designed to help create Internet access for all children. America Online President and Chief Executive Officer Steve Case joined Gilmore in outlining the goals for PowerUP.

## Magazine ranked Loudoun schools highly

Expansion Management magazine ranked Loudoun County Public Schools among the top 18 percent of school districts nationwide with 700 or more students. LCPS received the magazine's Gold Medal award after an annual survey of

2,234 school districts. Expansion Management is mailed to more than 45,000 CEOs, vice presidents and corporate directors of companies seeking to expand their businesses.

## School bond referendum passed

The Loudoun County School Bond Referendum in November 2000 passed overwhelmingly, receiving "yes" votes from 76 percent of those voting on the issue.

The issuance of the general obligation bonds authorized by this vote will fund two elementary schools, two middle schools, a high school and improvements to four existing middle schools.

The vote marked the tenth straight time since March 1987 that Loudoun voters have approved a School Bond Referendum. Through such votes, 18 new schools and 17 improvement projects to existing schools have been approved.

## Banquet honored student achievers

The 18th Annual Excellence in Education Banquet at the Lansdowne Resort, the culminating event of American Education Week, honored 138 students in 2000. The banquet honored senior students who achieved a grade point average of at least 3.7 during the first three years of high school, or who were named as National Merit Scholarship semi-finalists.



# *Top School Issues of the 2000-2001 Fiscal Year*



## **Fourth-grade test scores improved**

Fourth-graders in Loudoun County Public Schools posted significant gains in Stanford 9 testing. Results of the testing, conducted in September and October, showed that on the reading section of the test, the fourth-grade score jumped from the 66th to 71st percentile nationwide.

The average mathematics score went up from the 74th to 77th percentile. The language section of the test also showed a five-percentile jump (from 70 to 75), while science went up three percentiles (80 to 83) and social science four percentiles (71 to 75).

## **Schools received full SOL accreditation**

State Superintendent of Instruction Dr. Jo Lynne DeMary presented certificates to 34 Loudoun County schools that have received full accreditation under the Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL).

The honored schools passed the SOL standards for accreditation in testing held in the spring of 2000. The nine other LCPS schools involved in that testing were accredited provisionally, the second of four tiers of accreditation.

## **LCPS business partnerships were honored**

Four of Loudoun County Public Schools' business partnerships were

honored during a breakfast at the Dulles Marriott: Luck Stone Corp. for its Careers, Geology and Environment program; BFI Recycle Center and Herndon High School for their recycling program with Sterling Middle School; United Litho, Inc. for helping to produce the school's annual report; and Dulles Town Center for hosting LCPS' College Night and the school division's Arts Festival and Vocational Education Showcase.

The recognition event was sponsored by the Loudoun County School-Business Partnership Council and the Loudoun Education Foundation.

## **Kristin Hawkins was national spelling bee runner-up**

Kristin Karin Hawkins of Sterling Middle School was runner-up in the 74th annual Scripps Howard National Spelling Bee. She was the highest LCPS finisher at the National Spelling Bee since Daniel Greenblatt won the competition in 1984.

## **Graduates earned over \$5 million in scholarships**

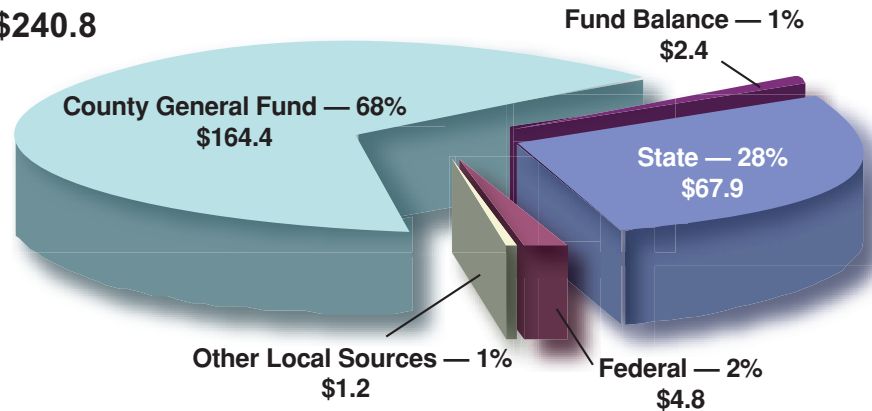
Graduating Loudoun County seniors earned \$5,196,146 in scholarships for the 2000-2001 school year, an 18 percent increase over the \$4,261,760 earned in 1999-2000 and a 39 percent jump from the \$3,182,564 earned in 1998-99. Of LCPS's 1,602 graduating seniors, 306 (19 percent) earned scholarships.

# Public Schools Finance and Enrollment

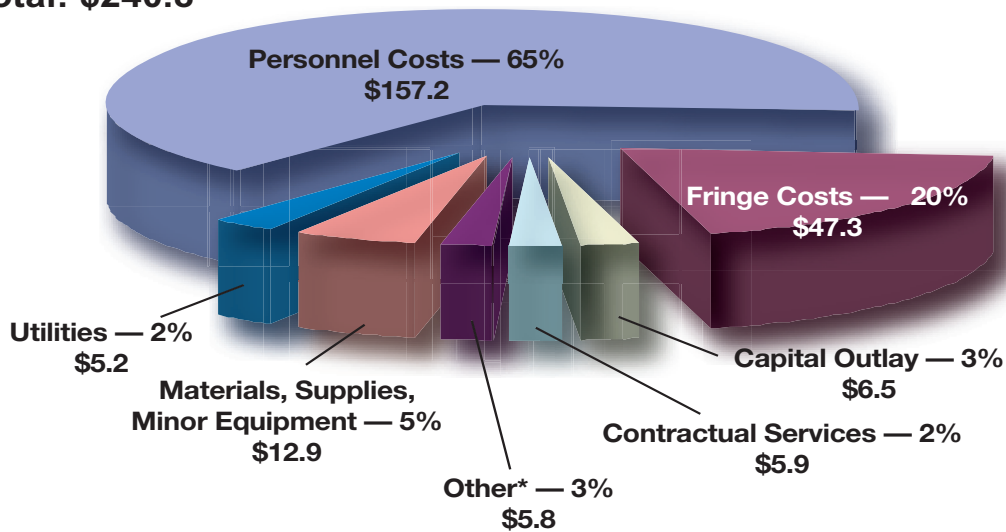
FY01 Actual

Revenues & Expenditures  
(millions)

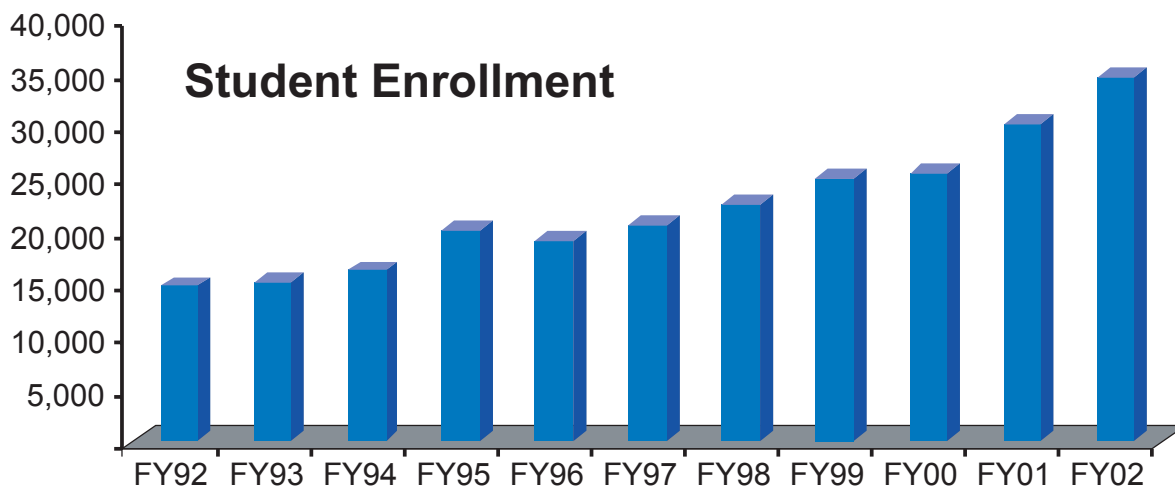
## Revenues Total: \$240.8



## Expenditures Total: \$240.8



**Other includes:**  
 Capital Construction  
 Communication  
 Debt Service  
 Insurance  
 Internal Services  
 Leases & Rentals  
 Mileage Reimbursement  
 Training & Continuing Education



# Facts and Figures

## Population Characteristics

	Population	Households
1980*	57,484	18,670
1990*	86,129	30,490
2000*	169,599	59,900
2001**	185,879	65,706
2010**	303,807	107,949

Source: \* U.S. Census; \*\* Loudoun County Estimates

## Age Characteristics of the Population (2000)

<5 years	16,461	10%
5-19 years	36,838	22%
20-24 years	6,908	4%
25-44 years	66,006	39%
45-64 years	33,848	20%
65-74 years	5,402	3%
75+ years	4,136	2%

Source: U.S. Census

## Race Characteristics of the Population (2000)

White	140,419	83%
Black	11,683	7%
Asian	9,067	5%
Other	8,430	5%
Hispanic (any race)	10,089	6%

Source: U.S. Census

## Average Income

Year	Per Capita	Household
2000	\$38,602	\$108,858
2001	\$39,975	\$112,732
2002	\$41,365	\$116,649

Source: Loudoun County Estimates

## Geography/Land Use (2000)

Land Area (square miles)	517
Agricultural (acres)	193,145
Residential (acres)	85,654
Commercial/Industrial (acres)	20,624
Public/Open Space (acres)	30,577

Source: Loudoun County

## Labor Force

Civilian Labor Force	100,297
Unemployment Rate	2.0%

Source: Virginia Employment Commission, May 2001

## Public Education

Public School Enrollment	31,565
Cost per Pupil	\$7,669
Number of Schools	48
SAT Scores: Math	519
SAT Scores: Verbal	527

Source: Loudoun County Public Schools, 2001

## At Place Employment

Industrial Classification	Employees
Agriculture	1,994
Mining	190
Construction	8,638
Manufacturing	4,944
Transportation, Communications	14,145
Wholesale and Retail Trade	19,843
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	2,152
Services	25,988
Government	13,679
<b>Total</b>	<b>91,573</b>

Source: Virginia Employment Commission, 4th Quarter 2000

## Colleges and Universities

	Loudoun Enrollment
The George Washington University	2,900
The Graduate School of Islamic and Social Sciences	25
Marymount University	657
Northern Virginia Community College	7,128
Patrick Henry College	75
Old Dominion University	250
Shenandoah University	300
Strayer University	1,050

Source: Loudoun County Economic Development, 2000

## Residential Building Permits

Year	Single Family	Townhouse	Multifamily
1996	1,646	1,065	345
1997	1,904	1,278	323
1998	2,384	1,527	1,363
1999	2,746	1,817	1,289
2000	2,680	2,377	1,077

Source: Loudoun County Economic Development



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This publication is dedicated to the  
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# *Loudoun County Virginia*

## *2001*

## *Annual Report*

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